

## REMARKS

The specification has been amended to update the priority information.

Applicants have amended the application to include a number of independent claims relating to a class of fine fibers on a filtration medium substrate. The fine fibers include a polymer resin reacted with a crosslinking agent, an electrospun fiber comprising a polymer resin reacted with a crosslinking agent, a crosslinked polyvinyl alcohol material, a blended nylon material and an acrylic fiber material. All of these claims are expressly supported by the specification. No new matter is added by way of amendment in this case.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

14 Jan '04  
Date

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